

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LUSAKA 00836 141606Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----102974 141609Z /50
O 141533Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7848

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 0836

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PDEV RH
SUBJ: RHODESIA: PRELIMINARY REPORT ON POSSIBLE RHODESIAN USE
OF CHINOOKS

REF: STATE 64490; LUSAKA 0806; LUSAKA 0827

1. I CALLED PRESIDENTIAL ASSISTANT, MARK CHONA, TUESDAY NOON TO ASK FOR AN APPOINTMENT TO GIVE HIM A PRELIMINARY REPORT ON THE CLAIM THAT THE RHODESIANS HAD USED CHINOOKS HELICOPTERS IN THEIR MARCH 6 RAID. HE ASKED ME TO COME OVER IMMEDIATELY SINCE HE WAS SEEING THE PRESIDENT AT LUNCH TIME.

2. I STARTED OFF BY SAYING THAT I ASSUMED THE PRESIDENT'S REQUEST FOR A REPORT FROM ME WHICH HE HAD MADE AT THE MEETING WITH THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS AND THEN REPEATED TO THE PRESS LATER IN THE AFTERNOON WAS A SERIOUS REQUEST. CHONA CONFIRMED THAT INDEED IT WAS (AND I TRUST REGISTERED THE REST OF THE POINT). I REVIEWED FOR HIM THE POINTS CONTAINED REF STATE TEL. I SAID THAT THERE WERE OTHER HELICOPTERS IN THE AREA WHICH MIGHT BE CONFUSED FOR CHINOOK BECAUSE OF THEIR SIZE AND I HAD JANE'S WORLD AIRCRAFT WITH ME IN WHICH I SHOWED HIM THE CHINOOK. HE IMMEDIATELY IDENTIFIED THE OTHER HELICOPTERS AS THE PUMA (AERO SPATIALE
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SA 330) WITH WHICH HE WAS QUITE FAMILIAR. I TOLD HIM THAT I WAS ONLY GIVING HIM A PRELIMINARY ANSWER TO THE QUESTION BUT SAID THAT IF THE GRZ COULD GIVE US ANY FURTHER INFORMATION, INCLUDING SERIAL NUMBERS OR PHOTOGRAPHS, IT WOULD HELP US CONSIDERABLY.

3. CHONA THANKED ME AND WE MOVED INTO OTHER SUBJECTS.

LOW

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY AIRCRAFT, BORDER INCIDENTS, HELICOPTERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780113-0535
Format: TEL
From: LUSAKA
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780372/aaaacind.tel
Line Count: 63
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: e6e9f5c7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
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Reference: 78 STATE 64490, 78 LUSAKA 806, 78 LUSAKA 827
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Subject: RHODESIA: PRELIMINARY REPORT ON POSSIBLE RHODESIAN USE OF CHINOOKS
TAGS: PDEV, RH
To: STATE
Type: TE
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